AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amendments to the specification below are indicated with insertions underlined (e.g., insertion), and deletions struckthrough or in double brackets (e.g., ~~deletion~~ or [[deletion]]):

Please amend the last paragraph on page 23 (and continuing as the first paragraph on page 24) as indicated below.

In general, in any of the embodiments herein, the prosthesis of the present invention can be adapted to release an agent for prophylactic or active treatment from all or from portions of its surface. The active agents (therapy drug or gene) carried by the prosthesis may include any of a variety of compounds or biological materials which provide the desired therapy or desired modification of the local biological environment. Depending upon the clinical objective in a given implementation of the invention, the active agent may include immunosuppressant compounds, anti-thrombogenic agents, anti-cancer agents, hormones, or other anti-stenosis drugs. Suitable immunosuppressants may include ciclosporinA (CsA), FK506, DSG(15-deoxyspergualin, 15-dos), MMF, rapamycin and its derivatives, CCI-779, FR 900520, FR 900523, NK86-1086, daclizumab, depsidomycin, kanglemycin-C, spergualin, prodigiosin25-c, cammunomicin, demethomycin, ~~tetranactln~~tetranactin, tranilast, stevastelins, myriocin, ~~gllooxin~~gliotoxin, FR 651814, SDZ214-104, bredinin, WS9482, and steroids. Suitable anti-thrombogenic drugs may include anti-platelet agents (GP IIb/IIIa, thienopyridine, GPIb-IX, ASA, etc and inhibitors for the coagulation cascade (heparin, hyrudin, thrombin inhibitors, Xa inhibitors, VIIa Inhibitors, Tissue Factor Inhibitors and the ~~like)~~like). Suitable anti-cancer (anti proliferative) agents may include methotrexate, purine, pyridine, and botanical (e.g. paclitaxel, colchicines and triptolide), epothilone, antibiotics, and antibodies. Suitable additional anti-stenosis agents include batimastat, NO donor, 2-chlorodeoxyadenosine, 2-deoxycoformycin, FTY720, Myfortic, ISA (TX) 247, AGI-1096, OKT3, Medimmune, ATG, Zenapax, Simulect, DAB486-IL-2, Anti-ICAM-l, Thymoglobulin, Everolimus, Neoral, ~~Azathipprine~~Azathioprine (AZA), Cyclophosphamide, Methotrexate, Brequinar Sodium, Leflunomide, or Mizoribine. Gene therapy formulations include Keratin 8, VEGF, and EGF, PTEN, Pro-UK, NOS, or C-myc may also be used.

Please amend the last paragraph on page 24 (and continuing as the first paragraph on page 25) as indicated below.

Examples of polymeric materials known for this purpose include hydrophilic, hydrophobic or biocompatible biodegradable materials, e.g. polycarboxylic acids; cellulosic polymers; starch; collagen; hyaluronic acid; gelatin; lactone-based polyesters or copolyesters, e.g. polylactide; polyglycolide; polylactide-glycolide; polycaprolactone; polycaprolactone-glycolide; poly(hydroxybutyrate); poly(hydroxyvalerate); polyhydroxy (butyrate-co-valerate); polyglycolide-co-trimethylene carbonate; ~~poly(diaxanone)~~poly(dioxanone); polyorthoesters; polyanhydrides; polyaminoacids; polysaccharides; polyphospoeters; ~~polyphosphoester-uretha-ne~~polyphosphoester-urethane; polycyanoacrylates; polyphosphazenes; poly(ether-ester) copolymers, e.g. PEO-PLLA, fibrin; fibrinogen; or mixtures thereof; and biocompatible non-degrading materials, e.g. polyurethane; polyolefins; polyesters; polyamides; ~~polycaprolactame~~polycaprolactam; polyimide; polyvinyl chloride; polyvinyl methyl ether; polyvinyl alcohol or vinyl alcohol/olefin copolymers, e.g. vinyl alcohol/ethylene copolymers; polyacrylonitrile; polystyrene copolymers of vinyl monomers with olefins, e.g. styrene acrylonitrile copolymers, ethylene methyl methacrylate copolymers; polydimethylsiloxane; poly(ethylene-vinylacetate); acrylate based polymers or ~~coplymers~~copolymers, e.g. polybutylmethacrylate, poly(hydroxyethyl methylmethacrylate); polyvinyl pyrrolidinone; fluorinated polymers such as ~~polytetrafluoethylene~~polytetrafluoroethylene; cellulose esters e.g. cellulose acetate, cellulose nitrate or cellulose propionate; or mixtures thereof.

Please amend the second full paragraph on page 26 as indicated below.

Wright et al. in U.S. Pat. No. 6,273,913, describes the delivery of ~~rapamyacin~~ rapamycin from an intravascular stent and directly from micropores formed in the stent body to inhibit ~~neointinal~~neointimal tissue proliferation and restenosis. The stent, which has been modified to contain micropores, is dipped into a solution of rapamycin and an organic solvent, and the solution is allowed to permeate into the micropores. After the solvent has been allowed to dry, a polymer layer may be applied as an outer layer for a controlled release of the drug.

Please amend the second full paragraph on page 27 as indicated below.

A variety of agents specifically identified as inhibiting smooth muscle-cell proliferation, and thus inhibit restenosis, have also been proposed for release from endovascular stents. As examples, U.S. Pat. No. 6,159,488 describes the use of a quinazolinone derivative; U.S. Pat. No. 6,171,609, describes the use of taxol, and U.S. Pat. No. 5,716,9815~~,176,98~~, the use of paclitaxel, a cytotoxic agent thought to be the active ingredient in the agent taxol. The metal silver is cited in U.S. Pat. No. 5,873,904. Tranilast, a membrane stabilizing agent thought to have anti-inflammatory properties is disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 5,733,327.